

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Hamzy Proposal Would Provide Life Insurance for National Guard Members on Active Duty**



Legislation (H. B. 5888) introduced by state Representative William A. Hamzy, R-78<sup>th</sup> District, would require the state to provide \$250,000 in life insurance coverage for members of Connecticut National Guard units called to active duty.

Several Connecticut National Guard units have been activated over the past three years in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

“Although not all of the Connecticut National Guard units that have been called up have been involved in combat, active duty service in the military is often more hazardous than most civilian occupations,” Representative Hamzy said. “When members of Connecticut National Guard units are called to active duty, it can mean significant financial hardship for their families. If guard members are killed in action or die of service-connected injuries while on active duty, it can be devastating for their families.”

“Connecticut National Guard members are being called upon more and more frequently to serve their country for extended active duty deployments – sometimes for a year or more,” Representative Hamzy said. “Several have been injured, wounded or killed in action fighting our country’s enemies. The state should show its appreciation and thanks for their willingness to serve by providing life insurance to provide financial security to their families if they make the ultimate sacrifice to preserve our freedom.”

Representative Hamzy’s bill is modeled on a similar measure that passed recently in New Mexico.